
MCA ADVISORY

Number 2, July 1999

**An Occasional Publication of Medal Collectors of America
Post Office Box 780 Mahopac N Y 10541**

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

CALLING ALL MEDAL COLLECTORS! Medal Collectors of America (MCA) will hold its **second Annual Meeting** at the Chicago (Rosemont) Convention of the American Numismatic Association on **Thursday, August 13, 1999, in Room 4 of the Rosemont Conference Center.** Our organizational meeting was held at the Portland ANA last year. A few members got together at the New York International Coin Convention in December 1998 but it appears certain that the annual meetings will be the most successful in these formative months.

Last year we named our organization and elected a Steering Committee consisting of David T. Alexander (President-Editor pro tem), Paul Bosco, Michael J. Hodder and R.W. Julian to get the wheels in motion in preparation for the August 1999 convocation. It has been a busy year. We created our first newsletter and received wonderful assistance from *COINage*, *Coin World*, *Numismatic News* and the American Numismatic Association and its journal, *The Numismatist*.

Our goal in 1998-99 has been to lay a foundation for realistic goals. All of the Steering Committee members work and we must devote the hours we can spare from busy schedules to MCA. After our first regular officers and Board of Directors are elected we will have more hands to the oars and much more will be achieved. For the first year expanding our membership, opening a bank account in a state notoriously difficult for unincorporated organization's banking needs, drafting a constitution, creating a logo (see below), launching our newsletter and obtaining as much free publicity as possible have been do-able deeds. We hope to see as many of you as possible in Chicago. We will vote for a constitution and regular leaders. If you cannot attend, send us your thoughts on constitution and logo as suggested below. We want and need your input!

David T. Alexander, President-Editor pro tem

THANKS ARE IN ORDER

There are many people and institutions to thank for their generosity and help in our first year. Larry Stack of Stack's, New York City, has very generously donated a supply of his firm's anniversary medals for the MCA's use. Larry has also backed your President in his often time-consuming labors this past year and allowed us to mail MCA membership applications to Stack's mailing list with good results. We hope that other major dealers will be as welcoming in the near future.

Partly in gratitude to the national organization, MCA has joined ANA as Club Member C-186457. ANA has offered us every cooperation since the beginning and we thank the association most heartily. We had no difficulty getting on the convention schedule in 1998 and 1999, thanks to Brenda ----- in the convention department.

MCA received its first Corporate gift this Fall, a check for \$500 from Medallic Art Company of Dayton, Nevada. MACO President Robert W. Hoff read of our beginning and came to our aid at once. Thank you, Bob! Your company has long been synonymous with Medal in the U.S. and thinking of us was most thoughtful.

Jim Miller and Kari Stone of *COINage* suggested that your President-Editor pro tem I write a feature story on MCA and illustrated it lavishly from their very complete library of color art. Most of you have received a copy of the November 1998 issue with the story. Write MCA if you have not received your copy.

A CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY FROM ALEX SHAGIN

Internationally acclaimed medalist Alexander Shagin volunteered last year to create a logo for MCA. Little did he know how demanding MCA was going to be, and he ended up providing three designs, reproduced here for our members' inspection. We ask that each member take the time to study these original designs and return their vote for the logo they most like. Your preferences are solicited and the organization will abide by the majority's wished in finalizing its logo. Thank you, Alex, for your most generous donation of time and talent!

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2)



3)



To express your logo preference, please use the Ballot at the end of this MCA Advisory.

FIRST ANNUAL CARL W. A. CARLSON AWARD

Your Steering Committee has voted to create MCA's first award, named after noted research cataloguer Carl W.A. Carlson. Many of you knew Carl during his tenure as curator of the Garrett Collection at the Johns Hopkins University or during his years with Paramount, NASCA and Stack's. Carl pioneered the concept of "Research Cataloguing," which strove to combine true research with auction catalogue descriptions of important historical medals.

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His work with NASCA's great catalogue of the Kessler-Spangenberg Collection set a new standard for high quality, in-depth cataloguing of U.S. Colonial and U.S. Mint medals. His researches and articles were too numerous to record here. Serious illness has removed Carl from active participation, and the Steering Committee is grateful to his wife Pat for permission to honor Carl with the name MCA's first award. We ask each MCA member to nominate one writer or researcher active in the medal field for consideration for the first Carlson Award.

Please give your nomination for the Carl W.A. Carlson Award on the Ballot at the end of this MCA Advisory. A short paragraph describing your nominee's accomplishments would be a great help.

**A PROPOSED CONSTITUTION FOR
MEDAL COLLECTORS OF AMERICA (MCA.)
AUGUST 1999**

NAME

ARTICLE I

The Name of this not-for-profit organization shall be *Medal Collectors of America*, hereinafter called MCA.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSES

The purposes of MCA are:

- 1) To foster the collecting and study of world and American art and historical medals and to encourage research and publication in the medal field.
- 2) To bring together all interested in the medal field through meetings, publications and activities.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in MCA shall be open to all persons of good character who subscribe to the purposes of the organization and pay the requisite membership dues. Types of membership shall be as follows:

- 1) Charter --- all members joining between August 1, 1998 and August 16, 1999. To insure harmony, MCA will not issue membership numbers, but Charter members shall be recorded in MCA membership records by the designation C-1998 or C-1999.
- 2) Regular --- all members accepted after August 16, 1999.
- 3) Honorary Life --- those honored by this category of membership who shall be unanimously elected to this category by the Board of Directors after August 16, 1999. Honorary Life members shall not be required to pay dues but shall exercise all the rights of Charter or Regular members.

Membership fee and annual dues will be as follows:

- 1) A once-only Application Fee of \$20 must be submitted with each application for membership.
- 2) Regular Annual dues will be \$15.00 per year, payable one year after receipt of the Application Fee.
- 3) The Board of Directors shall have full discretionary authority to admit or expel members or to decline to renew any membership.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Until the election of the first Board of Directors by the members attending the Annual Meeting of August 13, 1999, the affairs of MCA shall be conducted by the Steering Committee elected at the first Annual Meeting of August 1998. The Board of Directors elected at the Second Annual Meeting and its lawful successors shall have general charge and control of the affairs, funds and property of MCA; such authority shall extend to and include but not be limited to the right to conduct the affairs and carry on the operation of MCA, to authorize the acquisition, sale, lease or transfer of all real or personal property.

- 1) Elected Officers of MCA shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- 2) The Board of Directors shall consist of seven (7) members elected at large by the members in good standing in attendance at the Second Annual Meeting of August 13, 1999. Thereafter the Board shall be elected by mail ballot of all members in good standing who return such ballots. All MCA members shall be eligible to run for office in the organization.
- 2) Candidates for the officer or Board positions in regular mail ballot elections after August 1999 must be nominated in writing by at least three (3) MCA members in good standing. Such nominations must be received by the President not later than June 15 of each election year/
- 3) Those nominees receiving the highest number of votes cast shall be elected to each office or directorship.
- 4) Vacancies shall be filled as they occur between elections by appointment by the President with the approval of the Board. Such appointees will serve for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor until the next election.
- 5) Appointive Officers. The Editor shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board. The Board shall have the authority to create additional appointive officers at need.

Duties of Officers and Directors:

- 1) The President shall preside at all Board, membership and program meetings of MCA, shall be an *ex officio* member of all committees and shall appoint the chairpersons of all such committees with the approval of the Board.
- 2) The Vice President shall preside at all meetings which the President is unable to attend and shall perform such other duties as the President may direct.
- 3) The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of each regular or Board meeting and shall if required by the Board carry out all correspondence of MCA.
- 4) The Treasurer shall be custodian of the funds of MCA; shall collect all dues and financial contributions; shall disburse the funds of MCA in accordance with the Officers and Board headed by the President; shall keep full and accurate accounts; shall be prepared to present statements at the Annual Meetings of MCA and upon request at Board meetings; and perform such others as the Board may require.
- 5) The Editor shall prepare and publish the MCA newsletter (*MCA Advisory*) and the MCA journal (*The Medal Cabinet*), including such articles by members or guest writers, MCA news and reports and all other matter deemed appropriate.

Terms of Office:

Officers and Directors shall serve a two-year term beginning with the election at the Annual Meeting of August 13, 1999. No elected Officer or Director shall serve more than three (3) consecutive terms. Such Officers and Directors will be eligible for election only after a two-year interval.

Parliamentary Authority:

Unless otherwise specified in this Constitution, MCA will be guided by the rules set forth in the most recent edition of *Roberts' Rules of Order Revised*.

ARTICLE V

BOARD AND ANNUAL MEETINGS

- 1) An Annual Meeting will be held each year during the convention of the American Numismatic Association. Reports of MCA Officers and Directors shall be delivered at the Annual Meeting and
- 2) Board meetings shall be held at the convention of the American Numismatic Association or at any other time at the request of the President or any three (3) Board members.
- 3) A Quorum for the transaction of business at Board meetings shall consist of not less than four (4) Board members present and voting plus the President.

ARTICLE VI

AWARDS

MCA shall present at each Annual Meeting such awards as the Board shall deem appropriate. The purpose of all MCA awards shall be the fostering and recognition of excellence in medallic research, writing and publishing, and for outstanding service to MCA.

- 1) The Carl W.A. Carlson Award (established 1998) shall be the highest recognition of MCA. The Carlson Award will recognize outstanding research and writing in the medal field. The 1999 recipient of the Carlson Award shall be determined by the Steering

2) Committee appointed in August 1998. Each year thereafter the recipient shall be selected by ballot of Officers and Board. Each Officer and Director shall nominate one candidate, who shall then be selected by majority vote of the Officers and Board. Such vote will be take in writing not later than July 15 of each year.

2) MCA shall create and bestow such other awards as the Board may from time to time decide.

ARTICLE VII

AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the MCA Constitution may be proposed by any Board member. Such Amendments shall be presented in writing to the Board for mail vote or vote at a regularly called Board meeting. To be adopted, all Amendments must receive the affirmative vote of a majority of the Officers and Board, i.e. six (6) affirmative votes.

ARTICLE VIII

TERM OF EXISTENCE AND DISPOSITION UPON TERMINATION

MCA shall have a perpetual existence. In the event of dissolution, all assets shall de donated to one or more organizations deemed by the Officers and Board to be most closely allied to the objects of MCA.

This proposed Constitution will be discussed and possibly adopted at MCA's Second Annual Meeting to be held the ANA Convention on August 13, 1999 at Rosemont Conference Center, Room 4 at 3 pm.

APPROACHING THE PRESS: *THE MEDAL CABINET*

The first number of MCA's major research publication, *The Medal Cabinet*, is taking its final form at press time. We had hoped to have the journal ready in time for ANA but in line with the urgings of our contributors decided that quality had to come FIRST.

Headed for the first issue are major articles by John W. Adams, David T. Alexander, Paul Bosco, Michael J. Hodder, Theodore McCann, Scott Miller and others. The first issue will include a wide spectrum of both American and World medallic subjects and believe you will find the wait well rewarded.

This venture will be costly, because we will be using high quality coated paper, a profusion of illustrations and a boldly designed cover. To defray this cost we are soliciting advertising from all interested dealer and collectors. A prominent dealer and leading book specialist have copy on hand already. Cost: 1 full page, (outside dimension 8 ½ x 11 inches), 1 insertion: \$200; half page, \$100, quarter page \$50. Camera-ready ads are urgently preferred, but talk to us if you want to advertise but cannot generate such a finished product. Eighth page Sponsor ads are offered at \$25 each. There might include sentiments such as "Best Wishes to MCA" along with the well-wisher's name and address.

We are very excited by the material going into our first number and feel strongly that you the readers will be too. Just as MCA is fated to be America's first ongoing and successful medal COLLECTORS organization, so *The Medal Cabinet* will be the first broad-spectrum all-medal publication published on these shores. We'll be on the press immediately after ANA and already are seeking articles for the year 2000 issue!

SPECIAL NOTE: if for any reason you did not receive the first issue of *MCA Advisory* last Fall, please contact David T. Alexander, (212 582-2580 days, (914) 628-7535 after 7 pm. "Murphy" infests our mailing list from time to time and we can provide missing copies while supplies last.

BALLOT FOR LOGO, CARLSON AWARD, CONSTITUTION

I vote for number _____ as the official logo of MCA.

**I suggest _____ for the first Carl W.A. Carlson Award.
Some of my reasons are:**

**I approve _____; disapprove _____ the proposed MCA
Constitution.**

I suggest the following additions or modifications:

Mail to: MCA, Post Office Box 780, Mahopac NY 10541.
